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B. Webb  
5/16/02  
PATENT  
0445-02958

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NODA et al. Conf.: 1034  
Appl. No.: 09/818,783 Group: 3761  
Filed: March 28, 2001 Examiner: C. ANDERSON  
For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

May 10, 2002

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Office Action dated January 10, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

a<sup>1</sup> 3. (Amended) The absorbent article according to claim 1, wherein said nonwoven material has a basis weight of 30 to 45 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Please add the following claims:

a<sup>2</sup> --5. The backsheet according to claim 4, wherein the nonwoven material has a basis weight of 20 to 50 g/m<sup>2</sup>.